

WHAT'S HAPPENING WEDNESDAY

Kansas Immunization Program

January 30, 2019

VFC Consultant On-Call

The Consultant On-Call can be reached
Monday—Friday, 8:00am—5:00pm at
785-296-5592.



CHIEF CHAT

We appreciate all the effort that many of you have already put into preparing and submitting your influenza vaccine pre-book orders for the 2019—2020 vaccine season.

We previously alerted everyone that it was expected that Fluzone Quadrivalent 0.5 mL presentation would likely be approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for use in those six months and older. This approval was made about a week ago. See page four of this edition of What's Happening Wednesday for more information.

Please review the [pre-book instruction alert](#) which was sent January 15th and can also be found on the Seasonal Influenza page of our website. There have been several questions related to booking State and 317 funded vaccine. Refer to page four of these instructions for specific direction on eligibility and how to book 317 and State funded vaccine. You may also reach out to your Immunization Consultant or the Helpdesk for assistance. All pre-books must be completed by February 4th.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National

Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, recently launched the first video in a new, animated video series for parents titled "How Vaccines Work."

In these short videos, viewers follow baby Jack and his parents as they get answers to common vaccine-related questions and learn more about the importance of vaccinating on schedule. The first video describes how vaccines fight germs and provide long-lasting protection against 14 serious diseases. Watch and share How Vaccines Work: [How Do Germs Make Your Baby Sick?](#)

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) launched a complimentary, educational resource called HPV Vaccine: Same Way Same Day™ last year. This brief, interactive role-play simulation is designed to enhance healthcare providers' ability to introduce the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine and to address HPV vaccine hesitant parents' concerns. Developed by AAP members and staff, immunization experts, the Academic Pediatric Association, and Kognito, a health simulation company. The simulation is available for free on [Apple iTunes Store](#) and [Google Play Store](#).



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Thanks to all of you who LIKE our page, we are over 600 "Likes." We appreciate all of your support and hard work vaccinating Kansans from vaccine preventable diseases! We can be found by clicking on the Facebook logo or link below. Please make sure and share our posts and like our page while you are there.

<https://www.facebook.com/ImmunizeKS/>



Pediatric Influenza Deaths

It Is Not Too Late To Vaccinate!

CDC reports 3 additional pediatric deaths from influenza in the U.S., bringing total to 19; keep vaccinating your patients.

CDC has reported 3 more pediatric deaths from influenza in the U.S. as of the week ending January 12, for a total of 19. Last season, there was a record-setting number of pediatric deaths in the U.S. (185), so be sure to protect all your patients for whom vaccination is recommended.

CDC has stated in its [Weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report, FluView](#), that the geographic spread of influenza in Guam and 30 states was reported as widespread; Puerto Rico and 16 states reported regional activity; three states reported local activity; and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and one state reported sporadic activity.

Influenza vaccination is recommended for everyone six months of age and older. If you don't provide influenza vaccination in your clinic, please recommend vaccination to your patients and refer them to a clinic or pharmacy that provides vaccines or to the [HealthMap Vaccine Finder](#) to locate sites

near their workplaces or homes that offer influenza vaccination services.

Following is a list of resources related to influenza disease and vaccination for healthcare professionals and the public:

[CDC's Seasonal Flu web section](#)

[CDC's FluView web section](#)

[CDC's Free Resources related to influenza](#)

[IAC's free, CDC-reviewed educational materials and patient handouts related to influenza](#)

[IAC's Diseases and Vaccines Influenza web page](#)

[HealthMap Vaccine Finder](#)

[National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit website](#)

[Influenza Vaccine Availability Tracking System—IVATS](#): a resource for healthcare settings looking to purchase influenza vaccine

Hilleman Update

There were many very positive comments about the screening of the Hilleman movie at the 2018 Kansas Immunization Conference, so we thought we would provide you with some updated information.

The Hilleman film website has been redesigned and enhanced! While the site continues to have information about the film, it now also includes information related to Dr. Hilleman's life and other resources that might be of interest. Visit [HillemanFilm.com](#) to:

View the [film trailer](#)

Get information about the history of [the film's inception](#)

Find [screening information](#)

Learn about [Dr. Hilleman's life](#)

Access other [resources](#) that might be of interest



INJECTION OF EDUCATION

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [2019 Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit](#) was released last week. Be sure to either bookmark the page on your computers or print a copy. The Toolkit should be your “go to resource” for all vaccine storage and handling questions.

According to the Toolkit, “Proper vaccine storage and handling are important factors in preventing and eradicating many common vaccine preventable diseases. Yet, each year, storage and handling errors result in revaccination of many patients and significant financial loss due to wasted vaccines. Failure to store and handle vaccines properly can reduce vaccine potency, resulting in inadequate immune responses in patients and poor protection against disease. Patients can lose confidence in vaccines and providers if they require revaccination because the vaccines they received may have been compromised.” Not only does improper vaccine storage and handling reduce vaccine potency, vaccine losses due to improper storage can be very costly. Let’s face it, no one wants to call their patients from yesterday’s flu clinic to let them know the vaccine was not stored properly and that they all need to be revaccinated!

What kinds of information can you find in the Toolkit? The Toolkit offers a host of vaccine related topics including proper storage and storage unit set up, preparing for emergencies (before they happen), vaccine preparation, and how to properly transport vaccines if or when needed.

Maybe you have staff that are very familiar with vaccine storage and handling, but what happens when you hire new staff? The Toolkit is a great training tool to add to your new staff training.

The Toolkit addresses vaccine placement. We know clinic staff have been busy this season with administering flu vaccines. Have your vaccines shifted around in the vaccine storage units? Have you taken the time to reposition your vaccines and data logger probes to ensure they are not overcrowded, that they are placed away from the walls, and that there is room between rows for air to circulate?

(Continued on page 4)

Influenza Surveillance



January 29, 2019

The Influenza-Like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) sites continue to monitor patients for influenza-like illness (ILI) – symptoms include a fever ($\geq 100^{\circ}\text{F}$) and the presence of a cough and/or sore throat. During the week ending January 19th, ILINet sites reported 3.6% of visits were due to ILI. Syndromic surveillance indicated 4.2% of visits to emergency departments in Kansas were due to ILI. All data is subject to change. The Kansas Health and Environmental Laboratories (KHEL) has detected A/H1 in 12 specimens, A/H3 in two specimens, and influenza A (not subtyped) in three specimens. Five influenza outbreaks have been reported to Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) this season. As a reminder, outbreaks of any disease are reportable and should be reported to the epidemiology hotline at (877) 427-7317. Stay updated on influenza activity at <http://www.kdheks.gov/flu/surveillance.htm>.



VAX FACTS

Fluzone Quadrivalent Vaccine 0.5 mL Now Approved by FDA for Use Down to Age 6 Months

In a recent letter provide by Sanofi Pasteur, the following information was made available regarding the new approval from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to administer Fluzone Quadrivalent 0.5 mL vaccine to persons 6 months of age and older.

- Fluzone Quadrivalent 0.5 mL dose is currently available to reserve for the 2019-2020 influenza season.
- This approval is supported by clinical data from a Phase IV safety and immunogenicity study conducted in nearly 2,000 children, which demonstrated that one or two doses of 0.5 mL of vaccine in children 6 through 35 months of age had a safety profile that was comparable to one or two doses of 0.25 mL of vaccine with no new safety concerns observed, and induced a robust immune response.

- Fluzone Quadrivalent 0.25 mL dose will still be available to order for children ages 6-35 months for the 2019-2020 season.
- CPT codes and payer coverage will not be affected by this new approval.

Fluzone Quadrivalent is indicated for active immunization for the prevention of influenza disease caused by influenza A subtype viruses and type B virus(es) contained in the vaccine.

Fluzone Quadrivalent vaccine should not be administered to anyone who has had a severe allergic reaction (i.e., anaphylaxis) to any component of the vaccine (including egg protein) after a previous dose of the respective vaccine. In addition, Fluzone Quadrivalent vaccine should not be administered to anyone who has had a severe allergic reaction after a previous dose of any influenza vaccine.

(Injection of Education continued from page 3)

Are you new to vaccine management? Read the section on *Vaccine Inventory Management* for some great tips on the management of your vaccine inventory.

Take a few minutes to look through and double check that you are doing as well as you think you are. Proper vaccine storage prevents the need to

revaccinate patients and prevents very costly vaccine losses! It's worth taking a second look.

Thank you to all of our VFC providers who daily check temperatures and vaccine placement to ensure that vaccines are placed and stored correctly! You've heard it before, but you are the unsung heroes by protecting your patients from vaccine preventable diseases!

Vaccine Redistribution

Please email any additions or changes to be made on the Vaccine Redistribution lists with subject matter "Redistribution" to kdhe.vaccine@ks.gov or call toll free at 1-877-296-0464 [Vaccine Redistribution information and lists.](#)